

**Amendment to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1-12 (*Canceled*):

13 (*Currently Amended*): An operation apparatus which is used for operating a zoom lens, comprising:

a zooming switch ~~which is~~ operated to perform a zooming operation of the zoom lens;

a first function switch configured to be allocated with each one of a plurality of functions selectively;

an operation switch ~~which is~~ operated to allocate the one of [[a]] the plurality of functions to the first function switch for enabling performance of the function allocated to the first function switch in response to an operation of the first function switch; and

a display member which displays information on the function allocated to the first function switch.

14-17 (*Canceled*):

18 (*Previously Presented*): An image-taking system comprising:

the operation apparatus according to claim 13; and

the zoom lens.

19 (*Canceled*):

20 (*Currently Amended*): The operation apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising a second function switch, wherein the operation switch ~~can allocate~~ is capable of allocating another function of the plurality of functions ~~the function~~ to the second function switch, and wherein the display member simultaneously displays the functions allocated to the first and second function switches.

21-22 (*Canceled*):

23 (*Previously Presented*): A camera comprising:

an image-pickup element;

the operation apparatus according to claim 13; and

the zoom lens which forms an image of an object on the image-pickup element.

24 (*New*): An operation apparatus which is used for operating a zoom lens, comprising:

a zooming switch operated to perform a zooming operation of the zoom lens;

a first function switch configured to be allocated with each one of a plurality of functions selectively;

an operation switch operated to allocate the one of the plurality of functions to the first function switch for enabling performance of the function allocated to the first function switch in response to an operation of the first function switch; and

a display member which displays information on the function allocated to the first function switch,

wherein the zooming switch, the first function switch and the operation switch are separate switches.

25 (New): A camera comprising:

an image-pickup element;

the operation apparatus according to claim 24; and

the zoom lens which forms an image of an object on the image-pickup element.

26 (New): An operation apparatus which is used for operating a zoom lens, comprising:

a zooming switch operated to perform a zooming operation of the zoom lens;

a first function switch configured to be allocated with each one of a plurality of functions selectively and to be set so as to be allocated with no function;

an operation switch operated to allocate the one of the plurality of functions to the first function switch for enabling performance of the function allocated to the first function switch in response to an operation of the first function switch, and operated to set the first function switch so as to be allocated with no function; and

a display member which displays information on the function allocated to the first function switch.

27 (New): A camera comprising:

an image-pickup element;

the operation apparatus according to claim 26; and

the zoom lens which forms an image of an object on the image-pickup element.